(e) whether there were complaints of short purchase, delayed purchase, which compelled the farmer for distress sale, at a loss; and

(f) if so, the comments and reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) Table below gives the seed-wise and year-wise quantity of oilseeds produced in Rajasthan during the last three years *i.e.*, during 2005-06 to 2007-08:

('000 Tonnes)

Oilseed	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08*
Groundnut	491.0	395.7	477.0
Rapeseed & Mustard	4416.9	3805.6	2506.0
Soyabean	856.3	771.3	1071.0
Castorseed	135.4	104.4	159.0
Seasmum	62.8	88.7	127.0
Linseed	1.5	1.0	1.0
Sunflower	0.1	0.1	0.0
TOTAL	5964.0	5166.8	4341.0

*Fourth advance estimates released on 09.07.2008

(b) Groundnut, rapeseed & mustard, soyabean, sesamum and sunflower grown in Rajasthan were covered by Minimum Support Price (MSP).

(c) and (d) Quantities of 13.98 lakh tonnes during 2005-06, 14.17 lakh tonnes during 2006-07 and 0.21 lakh tonnes during 2007-08 of rapeseed & mustard were procured in Rajasthan against the production of 44.17 lakh tonnes, 38.06 lakh tonnes and 25.06 lakh tonnes during the corresponding years. No other oilseed was required to be procured in Rajasthan during the above period as their prices were ruling above the MSPs. The procurement was done by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED), which is the central nodal agency for undertaking procurement of oilseeds under the Price Support System (PSS).

(e) and (f) NAFED procured record quantity of 22.03 lakh tonnes of Rapeseed & Mustard valuing around Rs. 4200 crore during 2005-06, including 14.17 lakh tonnes from Rajasthan and the procurement operation was tapered by NAFED towards the end of the season.

Division of labour leading to decline in agriculture production

792. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the division of labour from farmlands to the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has led to decline in the agriculture production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has made any such assessment about the fall in agricultural production due to division of labour from farmlands to other schemes;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether Government has any plan to make such study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) Production of major agricultural crops in the country shows increase during the last three years *i.e.* during 2005-06 to 2007-08 as shown below:

(Million tonnes)

Crop	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08*
Foodgrains	208.60	217.28	230.67
Oilseeds	27.98	24.29@	28.83
Sugarcane	281.17	355.52	340.56@
Cotton #	18.50	22.63	25.81

@ Production declined due to decline in area.

* Fourth advance estimates released on 9.7.2008

Production in million bales of 170kg/each

As such, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme which has been operational since February 2006 and other schemes do not seem to have any adverse impact on the agricultural production in the country. Based on requirement, Government makes assessment of various schemes from time to time.

Oilseed production in A.P.

793. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assistance is being provided by the Union Government for increasing oilseeds production in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made thereon;

(c) whether all the districts of the State are covered under the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 major oilseeds, growing States including Andhra Pradesh for increasing area, production and productivity of oilseeds. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for supply of critical inputs *viz;* distribution of certified seeds, demonstration, plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipment, irrigation pipes, weedicides, rhyzobium culture, gypsum, sprinkler sets, water carrying pipes, improved farm implement and micro - nutrients etc. through State Departments of Agriculture. The assistance is also provided for